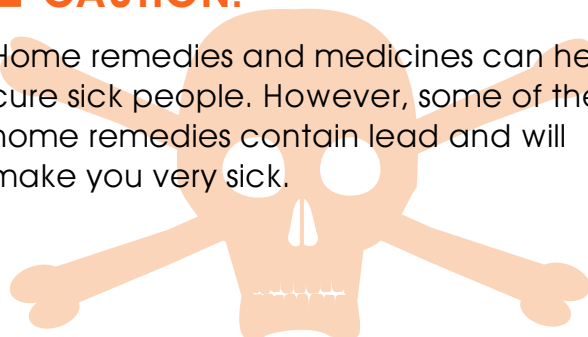


# LEAD *in home remedies*



## ■ CAUTION:

Home remedies and medicines can help cure sick people. However, some of these home remedies contain lead and will make you very sick.



## THESE HOME REMEDIES CONTAIN LEAD AND ARE VERY DANGEROUS!!



**Azarcon** a bright orange powder  
also known as Rueda, Coral,  
Maria Luisa, Alarcon, Liga



**Greta** a yellow powder

- Both Azarcon and Greta are given for “empacho” (intestinal illness).
- Both Azarcon and Greta are almost 100% lead. Any amount is poisonous to children and adults.

## ■ WHY IS LEAD DANGEROUS?

Lead poisoning can cause damage to the kidneys, nervous system, and brain. Children have suffered permanent brain damage and even died from the use of Azarcon and Greta.

Children with lead poisoning usually do not look or act sick. When they do show signs of lead poisoning, their symptoms can be very much like empacho. The symptoms of lead poisoning include tiredness, sleeplessness, stomachache, and vomiting.

## ■ WHAT CAN I DO IF I'VE TAKEN OR HAVE GIVEN MY CHILD A HOME REMEDY THAT CONTAINS LEAD?

You should get medical attention immediately. Call your doctor, clinic, or local health department for more information or for help with treatment for lead poisoning. Ask your health department to arrange for a free test to determine if there is lead in your Azarcon or Greta. Medical information is confidential. Your health is the main concern.

You can also call the Poison Control telephone hotline in your area. Look for their number in the front of the white pages in your phone book. Someone is available 24 hours/day to answer your questions and help in an emergency.

## ■ TESTING YOUR CHILDREN

Children ages 1 year through 6 years are at greatest risk for lead poisoning. Most children with lead poisoning don't look or act sick. Ask your doctor to do a blood lead test, and to explain the results to you. This test is the only sure way to know if your child is being poisoned. Most kids will have a blood lead level of less than 10 µg/dL.

For additional information, please contact:  
Washington State Department of Health  
Lead Surveillance Program      Call toll free: 1-800-909-9898  
Environmental Health & Safety      (360) 236-3381 or (888) 5TOXICS



## ■ DANGER!! THESE HOME REMEDIES ALSO CONTAIN LEAD AND CAN MAKE YOU VERY SICK

Hmong community:

**Pay-loo-ah**      a red powder given for rash or fever

Asian Indian community:

**Ghasard**      a brown powder given as an aid to digestion

**Bala Goli**      a round, flat, black bean dissolved in "gripe water" and used for stomachache

**Kandu**      a red powder used to treat stomachache

Arab American community:

**Kohl (Alkohl)**      a powder used both as a cosmetic eye make-up and applied to skin infections and the navel of a newborn child